

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A laser beam emitted from a laser light source passes through an illumination lens and is thereafter incident upon a total internal reflection prism. The total internal reflection prism bends the laser beam, which is applied to a Grating Light Valve™. The laser beam divided into a number of beams and modulated by the light valve is incident upon a focusing lens. The normal to the light valve forms an angle θ_{xz} with the optical axis of an illumination optical system including the total internal reflection prism and an illumination lens. The normal to the light valve also forms the angle θ_{xz} with the optical axis of a focusing optical system.